



# TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE NEWSLETTER

October 17, 2013

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[www.chincoteague-va.gov](http://www.chincoteague-va.gov)

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## TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

JOHN H. TARR, MAYOR

ARTHUR LEONARD, VICE MAYOR

GENE W. TAYLOR

TERRY HOWARD

JOHN N. JESTER

EUGENE "TRIPP" MUTH

ELLEN W. RICHARDSON

## LADEE EXCITES ISLAND

The peaceful quaint Chincoteague Island had it's late summer night light up like a dream. On September 6th, the Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer lifted off from Wallops Island at precisely 11:27 pm to cheers from thousands gathered around the island to witness the event. The Town had been planning for months in advance for this big event. Emergency management staff along with staff from the various departments within the Town developed the STAR (Space Tourist Action Response) Plan in preparation for the many planned launches from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Space Port. Many activities were happening behind the scenes to keep you safe and the experience an enjoyable one. With prior experience from July 4th and Pony Penning festivities, a busing plan was put into action to facilitate the large crowds that were inevitable due to the closure of Assateague Island during this event. First-aid tents, no parking signs, portable toilets and information on the event were placed throughout the island. Additional fire and emergency medical resources were staged in anticipation of the large crowds. Staff as well as volunteers were on hand to park cars and guide everyone to and from the event. While this level of response will not be needed during every launch, know that your Town is there planning and preparing to keep each launch a safe and enjoyable event for you and your family.

## GET PREPARED & STAY PREPARED

Each year thousands of people are impacted by disasters. Although you or your family may not have been one of those affected, chances are high that at sometime you will be. Now is the time to prepare. Review your insurance policies; get flood insurance. Have a plan for you and your family, where will you go? Who will you call? Add your cell phone or off-island work number to the Town's notification system by visiting [www.chincoteague-va.gov](http://www.chincoteague-va.gov) and click the link under Reverse 911 that says click here to complete the form. There is no need to add your on-island home phone as it is currently updated in our system automatically by Verizon. Make a plan and get prepared! **Stay prepared** by checking those disaster supplies that you have in your kit. Look for damage to the items as well as expiration dates. Add to your supplies each month to increase your survivability. Key supplies should include non-perishable food, one gallon of water per person per day, flashlights, batteries, first-aid supplies, and important documents. Go to [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov) for more information.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

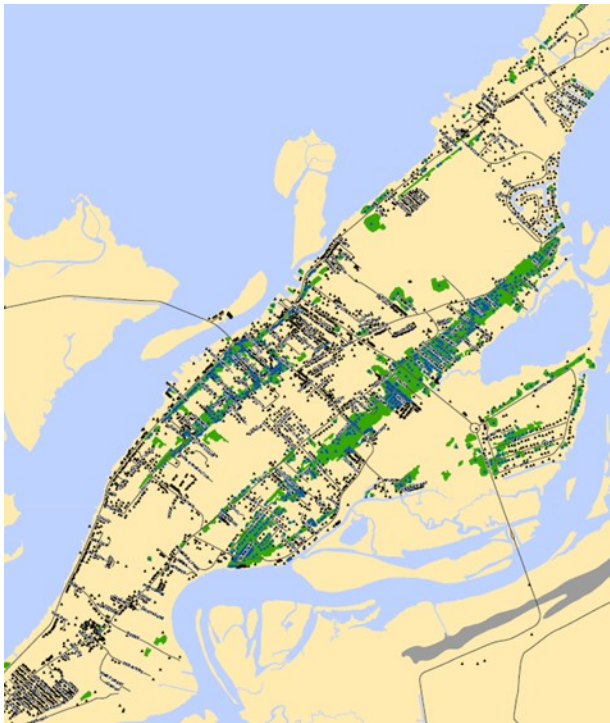
Town Council Meeting	Oct 17
PUBLIC HEARING- 911 System	Oct 21
Wastewater Committee Open House	Oct 24
Chincoteague Island Family YMCA Chin-Dig	Nov 2
Town Council Meeting	Nov 4
3rd Annual Mayor's Ball	Nov 23
Community Thanksgiving Praise at the Center	Nov 25
27th Annual Deborah Waterfowl Show	Nov 29
Annual Town Christmas Tree Lighting	Nov 30
Town Council Meeting	Dec 2
Old Fashioned Christmas Parade	Dec 7
Pony Island Horseshoe Drop	Dec 31
Chill OUT! Polar Plunge	Jan 1

### **FALL BACK; CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR BATTERIES**

The Town of Chincoteague in conjunction with the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company would like to remind you to set your clocks back one hour at 2 AM, Sunday, November 3, 2013. During this time, check the batteries in your smoke detector.

### **FEMA Draft Flood Insurance Rate Maps**

If your property is 'in the green' area of the new maps, you may be located above the 100 year flood elevation. Visit the website: <http://maps.riskmap3.com/VA/AccomackCo/> or call the Town Office for more information.



### **SUPERVISOR THORNTON'S CORNER**

FEMA will soon release the new Draft Flood Elevation maps. The maps have many properties on Chincoteague being recommended for removal from the 100 year floodplain, which will benefit our residents.

I have provided the Town with large maps for review by our residents. Since the cost of flood insurance will be increasing over the next several years this can bring relief to some of our residents.

### **Community PLAYGROUND needs your help!**

Storm Damage at the Veterans Memorial Park has been repaired by the dedicated Public Works Staff, however it is time to renovate the playground equipment. Concerned citizens, organizations and businesses are encouraged to participate in planning and possible funding of new playground equipment. Please join our Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee on November 12th at 5pm to work on options for this project going forward.

### **MAIN STREET 'Under Construction'**

Main Street improvements will continue in the 'off-season' this year with work on Downtown sidewalks along the east side between Church Street and Cleveland Street. Also, there will be reconstruction of concrete sidewalks from the Bridge intersection along the east side of North Main Street to the Combined School. Paving will be scheduled as weather permits. Thank you VDOT!



### **PREVENT DELAYS IN EMERGENCIES**

During an emergency time is a critical factor. A loved one may be sick or injured, you are over run with stress. The responders coming to your rescue know these feelings all too well and need your help to better serve you. Please post your 4 digit 911 house number in a well lit, conspicuous place that is visible from the street. If you live away from the street, post your number in a visible area near the driveway that accesses your home. Some individuals may live in campgrounds part of the year; those people should post their lot number in a highly visible location at the front of their residence. Please help us, help you! **EMERGENCY 911**